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Constitution of the Groton Invincible Club - 1846

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# CONSTITUTION

AND

# BY-LAWS

OF THE

# Groton Invincible Club.

FOUNDED 1843.

'HAIL-FELLOWS, WELL MET.'

GROTON, MASS.
PUBLISHED BY THE CLUB.
1846.

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# PREAMBLE.

It having become obvious that the original Constitution of the Invincible Club, in many of its provisions, has accomplished its object, and that the times and circumstances under which it was formed, and through which it has been so long enthusiastically supported, have materially changed, we have thought it proper on this occasion, when nearly every member is present, to frame a new Constitution, better adapted to the exigences of the present time, and more suitable for binding us together as a band of companions, for the future.

Having full confidence in every individual belonging to the Club,—confidence founded

on long and intimate acquaintance, through times and difficulties which, with many, 'tried young men's souls,' at that early period of life when the heart is pure and tender, and when alone true friendships, uninfluenced by cold policy and self-interest, can in reality be formed, we bind ourselves together under the name of the 'GROTON INVINCIBLE CLUB,' as a band of friends and companions.

We pledge our honors to continue to each other the same feelings of friendship, the same acts of kindness and affection, which, for many years past, have been uninterruptedly enjoyed among us. We will meet at proper times and places, for the purpose of participating in kind interchanges of social feelings, of grasping the hands, of hearing the voices, and of seeing the smiles of warm and sincere friends. We will at such times exert ourselves to recall to each others minds

pleasant scenes and associations of the past, happy thoughts of the present, and cheering hopes of the future.

And as we grow older, the ties which bind us shall grow stronger. We will still meet to congratulate each other in success, or sympathize in misfortune. We will, on these occasions, throw away all the cares and perplexities of business, all the troubles of the world, and meet in sweet communion over the joys of the present. Whatever our condition may be at other times and in other places, at INVINCIBLE CLUB meetings we will be

'O'er all the ills of life victorious.'

To carry our intentions into effect, we sign the following Constitution, which we pledge ourselves, one and all, to support and encourage.

# CONSTITUTION.

## SECTION I.

### OF THE CLUB.

ART. 1. This society shall be called the 'GROTON INVINCIBLE CLUB,' and shall have for its motto,

'Hall-fellows, well met.'

ART. 2. Its head quarters shall be in Groton, where one meeting, at least, shall be held each year.

## SECTION II.

### OF OFFICERS.

ART. 1. The officers shall be a President, Vice President, Corresponding Secretary,

Recording Secretary, Treasurer, and a Board of Directors.

Art. 2. The President shall preside at meetings when present, preserve order thereat, and have a general supervision and superintendence over all the affairs of the Club.

Art. 3. The Vice President shall perform the duties of President in his absence, and when that office shall be vacant.

Art. 4. The Corresponding Secretary shall give notice of the annual meeting to members, notify newly elected members of their election, write all letters and communications relating to the Club which he may think necessary, or which he may be requested to write by other members.

Art. 5. The Recording Secretary shall keep an accurate record of the proceedings of meetings in Groton and elsewhere, when present, and shall record the minutes of proceedings of other meetings of the Club,

when they are transmitted to him for that purpose.

Art. 6. The Treasurer shall apportion the expenses of the Club among the members, collect assessments and fines, and pay all bills as directed by the Board of Directors.

Art. 7. The Board of Directors shall consist of the Recording Secretary and five elected persons, who shall make all necessary arrangements for the annual and other meetings, see that every thing necessary is prepared for the reception of members at the meetings, and obtain and return the bills of expenditures therefor to the Treasurer.

When a meeting is to be held in any other place than Groton, the member or members of this Board residing in that place, shall make the arrangements for that meeting.

Art. 8. When the President and Vice President are both absent, the chair shall be filled by some one of the other officers, in

the order in which they are mentioned in this Constitution, excepting that the Recording Secretary shall never be called to the Chair.

Art. 9. All officers shall hold their offices one year, and till others are chosen in their places.

## SECTION III.

### OF MEMBERS.

Art. 1. All the members of the Club, under the old Constitution, who shall sign this Constitution within six months from its adoption, shall remain members still.

Art. 2. At any regular meeting in Groton or elsewhere, when five members are present, any person not excluded by articles 3d, 4th, and 5th, of this section, may be nominated as a member of this Club, and if unanimously elected, may afterwards act as such until the next annual meeting, when he

shall be initiated, unless objection is made thereto.

Art. 3. No person shall become a member unless he has some attachment for Groton, either by having been born there, lived there, attended school, or visited there, or unless he is of such a disposition as to become attached thereto by attending the annual meetings of the Club.

Art. 4. No person shall join the club unless he is a 'whole souled fellow,' whose heart will beat in unison with the heart of every other member thereof.

Art. 5. No person shall be chosen a member unless he is recommended by two members with whom he is personally acquainted.

## SECTION IV.

### OF MEETINGS.

Art. 1. One Annual Meeting shall be held in Groton, in each year, on the first

Wednesday of August, when every member is expected to be present.

Art. 2. A meeting may be held in Groton at any intermediate time during the year when three members request it, and are present.

Art. 3. A meeting may be held at any time, in any other place, by five members; and in such case, if the Recording Secretary is absent, a Secretary pro tem. shall be chosen, to take minutes of the proceedings and transmit them to the Recording Secretary, who shall record them with the proceedings of other meetings.

Art. 4. The intermediate meetings may be held for the purpose of passing votes and resolutions, giving directions to the Board of Directors, making suggestions in regard to the duty of members, devising plans for the encouragement and support of the Club, choosing members, according to Article 2,

Section 3; and transacting any other business, excepting that nothing shall be done affecting the rights of absent members, only as provided in Section 6, Article 1.

## SECTION V.

### DUTY OF MEMBERS.

ART. 1. Members shall discourage the use of intoxicating drinks by any of the Club.

ART. 2. No one shall propose a person for initiation, unless he be intimately acquainted with him, and is well satisfied that he will make a worthy member.

ART. 3. Members shall conduct towards each other on all occasions as becomes friends and companions.

ART. 4. Any member may be expelled at an annual meeting, by a unanimous vote of the members present; and any member

may be suspended until the next annual meeting, at any intermediate meeting, by a unanimous vote of the members present.

ART. 5. When any vote is taken upon the suspension or expulsion of a member, his vote shall not be received.

## SECTION VI.

### OF THE BY-LAWS.

ART. 1. At the annual meetings, and at any intermediate meeting, held in Groton, when five members are present, By-Laws may be passed not inconsistent with the letter and spirit of this Constitution.

ART. 2. The Club shall have power to make By-Laws fining members for absence, neglect or breach of duty, misconduct, &c.

## SECTION VII.

### OF THE CONSTITUTION.

ART. 1. This Constitution shall take ef-

fect from and after the time it is accepted, and all the offices under it filled.

ART. 2. Any alteration or addition may be made at an annual meeting, by a vote of two-thirds of the members present.

# BY-LAWS.

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Art. 1. The Board of Directors may, at their discretion, prepare a dinner or a supper for the annual meeting, or both; and may make arrangements for a ride, together with such other arrangements as they think proper, notice thereof being given to the Corresponding Secretary in season for him to notify members, according to Article 2.

Art. 2. The Corresponding Secretary shall notify every member of the Club, of the time and place of holding the annual meeting, and the arrangements concerning it, at least thirty days previous thereto.

Art. 3. Temporary Executive Officers may be appointed at any meeting, to carry into effect votes passed thereat.

Art. 4. At the annual meetings, proper notice shall be taken of the marriages and deaths of members of the Club, which took place during the year previous.

Art. 5. The initiation of members shall be according to the form, and in the manner pointed out by the presiding officer for the time being.

Art. 6. Any member who shall be absent at the annual meeting, shall pay a fine of one dollar; and any absent member who shall not write to the President or Corresponding Secretary, previous to the meeting, that he will necessarily be absent, stating his whereabouts and whatabouts, &c. shall pay a fine of two dollars.

Art. 7. Any member who shall conduct improperly at any meeting, may be fined by the presiding officer, with right of appeal to the meeting, not exceeding the sum of fifty cents, for each offence.

Art. 8. Any member who, on the day or evening of any meeting, shall partake of any intoxicating drinks, or see another member partaking thereof, without protesting against it in the name of the Club, shall pay a fine of one dollar.

Art. 9. Fines collected at the meeting at which they are assessed, shall be used in paying the expenses of that meeting; and fines collected at any other time, shall be used in paying the general expenses of the Club.

Art. 10. The general expenses shall be assessed equally among all the members of the Club.

Art. 11. The expenses of meetings shall be assessed equally, among the members present.

Art. 12. The Officers of the Club may be chosen by ballot, or in any other way, as the meeting at which they are to be chosen shall direct.

Art. 13. Any officer who shall neglect his official duty, may be fined, at any meeting at which the subject is brought up, such sum as may be thought proper.

Art. 14. At the annual dinner or ride, if the Board of Directors shall consent, ladies may be invited by the members, to participate in the pleasures of the occasion.

# OFFICERS FOR 1846-7.

PRESIDENT.

WILLIAM A. RICHARDSON.

VICE PRESIDENT.

EDWIN COBURN.

RECORDING SECRETARY.

DARIUS CROSBY.

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY.

ARTEMAS WOOD, JR.

TREASURER.

HENRY A. GREEN.

DIRECTORS.

DARIUS CROSBY, *ex officio*.
NATHAN R. THAYER.
WILLIAM L. GREEN.
ANDREW J. HARLOW.
CHARLES E. THOMPSON.
SAMUEL P. LEWIS.

# NAMES OF MEMBERS.

| | |
|---|---|
| William D. Blanchard, . . . | *Williams College.* |
| William B. Brigham, . . . | *Burlington, Vt.* |
| Frank A. Brown, . . . . | *Manchester, N. H.* |
| Edwin Coburn, . . . . | *Groton.* |
| Darius Crosby, . . . . | *Groton.* |
| Eben H. Frost, . . . . | *Boston.* |
| S. Gilman Frost, . . . . | *Fitchburg.* |
| Charles B. Farley, . . . | *Boston.* |
| William L. Green, . . . | *Boston.* |
| Henry A. Green, . . . . | *Boston.* |
| Andrew J. Harlow, . . . | *Concord.* |
| C. Houghton Heywood, . . | *Lowell.* |
| *Robert M. Lawrence, . . . | *Boston.* |
| Samuel P. Lewis, . . . . | *Pepperell.* |
| Avery W. Nelson, . . . | *Stow.* |
| William A. Richardson, . . | *Lowell.* |
| Nathan R. Thayer, . . . | *Lowell.* |
| Charles E. Thompson, . . . | *Groton.* |
| Henry Thayer, . . . . | *Cambridgeport.* |
| Artemas Wood, Jr. . . . | *Groton.* |
| Samuel J. Wright, . . . | *Fitchburg.* |

* Deceased.

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